

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Chief, FBIS
ATTN : Chief, Field Operations Staff, FBIS

DATE: 26 July 1963

FROM : Chief, Okinawa Bureau, FBIS

SUBJECT: Press Sourcelines

REF : Memo to Chief, Okinawa Bureau, from Chief, Field Operations Staff, dated 11 July 1963, subject as above.

1. The Okinawa Bureau concurs with the proposal to eliminate target areas in sourcelines for press transmissions, as outlined in paragraph 2 of referenced memorandum, with the following exception:

We do not believe that an exception should be made to limit the target of transmissions by official government information services. It would be just as misleading to limit the recipients of official information service transmissions to "diplomatic missions" as to limit the target area of other types of press agency transmissions, since material transmitted by government information services is intended not only for the diplomatic missions themselves but also for dissemination by these missions.

2. We agree that a distinction should be made between the internal and external services of communist press agencies.

3. On interagency transmissions, we do not concur in the elimination of the geographic destination and the substitution of the word "for" for the more conventional "to", for the following reasons:

a. Many consumers are not familiar with such abbreviations as "CTK", "ISI", "IIS", "MONTSAME", and those of other lesser known press agencies. We feel it is just as important to identify CTK by adding Prague and ANSA by adding Rome as it is to identify the DAILY EXPRESS as being a London newspaper.

b. If a city of destination is only a relay point, it should be omitted and the actual city of destination substituted, e.g., press material for Tokyo is addressed to Osaka, the relay point, just as Shanghai is a relay point for Peking, but Tokyo and Peking should appear in the sourcelines.

c. The use of "for" in a single sourceline when "to" is used in all other sourcelines would only tend to compound the confusion surrounding sourcelines without achieving any notable benefit. We are sure you will appreciate the difficulty encountered in trying to explain through an interpreter to a non-English-speaking code operator why he has to use "to" in ninety-nine percent of his sourcelines and "for" in the other one percent.

4. We advocate the retention of geographic destination in correspondent's dispatches for the same reason as indicated in 3.a above.

5. Finally, we recommend that initials not be used in sourcelines for the Information Service of India (ISI), the Indonesian Information Service (IIS) and other official services where inadvertent transposition of the initials could conceivably cause FBIS and the U.S. Government considerable embarrassment.

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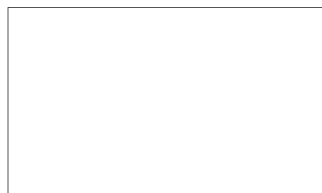
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